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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,445	09/11/2003	Dieter Staiger	DE920010033US1	4895

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EXAMINER

LERNER, MARTIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
2 MONTHS	04/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,445

Applicant(s)

STAIGER, DIETER

Examiner

Martin Lerner

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 to 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1 to 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

EX PARTE QUAYLE

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of Applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in The European Patent Office on 14 March 2001. It is noted, however, that Applicant has not filed a certified copy of the application filed in the European Patent Office as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).
3. Acknowledgment is made of Applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in the European Patent Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty on 15 February 2001. It is noted, however, that Applicant has not filed a certified copy of the application filed in the European Patent Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to for the following reasons:

The Specification describes element 21 as a back-end processor, but Figure 1 labels element 21 as Real-time system TTS streamer. Figure 1 should be corrected to label element 21 as a back-end processor so as to provide consistency with the Specification.

The Specification describes "line 34" on Page 8, Line 1, but "line 34" is not labeled in Figure 1.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office Action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested:

Minimizing Resource Consumption for Speech Recognition Processing with Dual Access Buffering

6. The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to for the following reasons:

Applicant should delete the "1" after "processor system", as that is the only numerical element in the Abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

7. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 1, line 23, "letter" should be ~~latter~~.

On page 4, line 2, "prize" should be ~~price~~.

On page 6, line 20, "amplifier 14" should be ~~amplifier 24~~. (See Figure 1.)

On page 6, line 25, "gain control 24" should be ~~gain control 25~~. (See Figure

1.)

On page 8, line 7, "poles" should be ~~pulse~~.

On page 10, line 12, "a active" should be ~~an active~~.

Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

8. Claims 1 to 20 are allowed.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Independent claims 1 and 13 are allowable at least because the prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest dual access storage means for buffering of data, where execution of speech recognition is stopped when data in a dual access storage means falls below a predefined threshold level, and triggering execution of speech recognition when the dual access storage means is refilled to a level above the threshold level. It is known to place a buffer between a front-end preprocessor and a speech recognition back end, as taught by Figure 2 of *Rees*. However, the prior art of record does disclose or reasonably suggest a dual access buffer that stops execution of speech recognition when data in a dual access buffer falls below a threshold.

Applicant's Specification, Page 4, Line 10 to Page 5, Line 2, suggests objectives of optimizing performance of speech recognition by avoiding peak processing demand and bottlenecks, reducing overall power consumptions to enable handheld devices to perform for an extended period on a single battery charge, and realizing a cost advantage by using a lower cost processor with reduced power and cooling requirements.

CONCLUSION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Martin Lerner whose telephone number is (571) 272-7608. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ML
4/25/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Lerner", written over a horizontal line.

Martin Lerner
Examiner
Group Art Unit 2626